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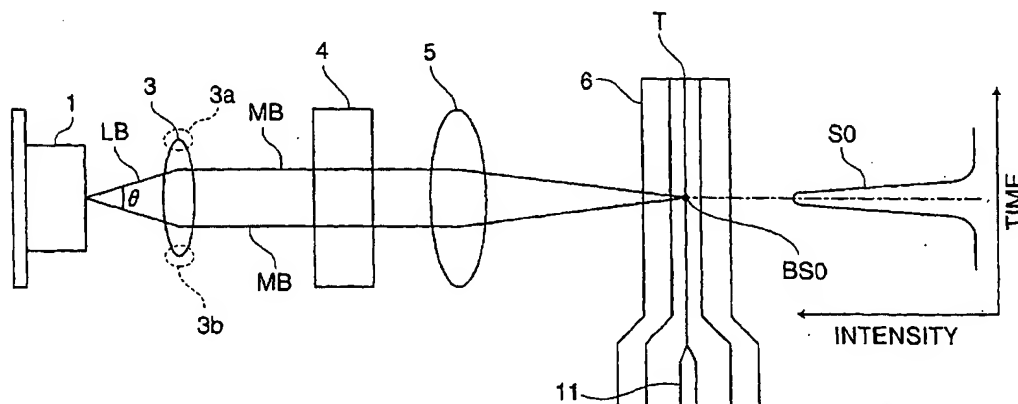
AL LT LV MK RO SI(30) Priority: **29.03.2001 JP 2001094878****15.06.2001 JP 2001182085**(71) Applicant: **Sysmex Corporation****Kobe-shi, Hyogo 651-0073 (JP)**

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• **Ozasa, Masatsugu****Kasai-shi, Hyogo 675-2312 (JP)**• **Kosako, Tatsuya****Kakogawa-shi, Hyogo 675-0111 (JP)**(74) Representative: **HOFFMANN - EITLE****Patent- und Rechtsanwälte****Arabellastrasse 4****81925 München (DE)**(54) **Flow cytometer**

(57) A flow cytometer includes a flow cell (6) for flowing a sample liquid (T) in a flowing direction, to form a sample flow the sample liquid containing particles to be analyzed, a laser diode (1) radiating a laser beam (LB) having an elliptic cross section, a beam collimating section (3) for collimating the laser beam radiated from the laser diode (1), a beam spot forming section for focusing

the collimated beam at the sample flow in the flow cell (6) to form a beam spot (BSO), and a light receiving section for receiving light generated from the particles at the beam spot (BSO) to detect optical information of the particles, wherein the laser diode (1) is arranged such that a minor diameter of the elliptic section of the laser beam is parallel to the sample flow.

FIG.5



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 17 September 2002	Examiner Hoogen, R
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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